



*Les Amis de Marigny*

*Helping to make the Marigny a better place to live, work and play*

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**APRIL**

General Meeting • April 21  
6:30 Potluck • 7:15 Meeting  
St. Paul's Lutheran Church

**MAY**

Board Meeting • May 7  
6:30 PM • Location TBA

**Sunday • May 18**  
**36th Annual Spring Home**  
**Tour and Art Market**

Washington Square Park  
10 AM - 4 PM

General Meeting • May 19  
6:30 Potluck • 7:15 Meeting  
St. Paul's Lutheran Church

**MARK YOUR**  
**CALENDARS FOR**

3rd Annual Walking Tour  
and Art Market  
October 10, 2008

24th Annual Candlelight Caroling  
and Art Market  
December 14, 2008

**Meet the Neighbors**

**2nd TUESDAY • 6:30 - 8:30 PM**  
**See Website for location**

**NONPAC MEETINGS**

**5TH District**  
**2nd Wednesday • 7 PM**  
**2372 St. Claude Avenue**

**8TH District**  
**2nd Thursday • 5:30 PM**  
**Omni Royal Hotel**

**ST. CLAUDE AVENUE MAIN**  
**STREET MEETINGS**

**4th Wednesday, 12 Noon**  
**Green Project**  
**Marais and Press Streets**

**EVERY SATURDAY**

**UPPER 9th WARD**  
**GREEN MARKET**  
**1 - 4 PM**  
**Holy Angels Convent**  
**3500 St. Claude**

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT** — Chris Costello

Spring is off to a great start for us in the Marigny.

The trees in Washington Square Park have been sprayed which will allow us to enjoy the park all spring long. This year we went Green by using an organic pesticide. This meant spraying the trees much sooner than we did last year which did not give us enough time to raise the funds for the spraying. If you can make a donation please let us know. (more page 4)

Thank you to the Downtown Irishman's Club for helping us celebrate St. Patrick's Day. The parade rolled through our neighborhood to an enthusiastic crowd. We are fortunate to have so much fun so close to home.

Our home tour is shaping up to be the best ever. We have seven of the oldest homes in our neighborhood on the tour this year. Thank you to Russ Carll for helping us locate homes. The day will be a neighborhood celebration of your architectural and cultural heritage to include an art market, music and a kid's area. Come and join in on the fun. We are still looking for help the day of the event. If you can help let us know. (more on page 2)

We are making head way on raising the requisite \$10,000 for our matching fund drive for projects in our neighborhood. We have already received donations totaling \$2650 and thanks to the generous \$1 for \$1 matching gift from Julian Doerr Mutter, we have actually raised \$5300! Donating to projects in our neighborhood keeps our money local, provides a way to reduce your tax burden and lets you see your money go to good use. Please help us maximize our matching gift. Donate today. (more on page 9)

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**PRESIDENT'S REPORT** - *continued from page 1, column 2*

The 1st Annual St. Claude Avenue Easter parade was a great success. Thank you to Kathy Connolly for organizing the event and all her helpers and Robyn Blanpied for her help and support. The purpose of the event was to raise awareness about St. Claude Avenue and get people up on the street so we can take it back. More good will come from our Main Street program if we all get involved. St. Claude Avenue is our commercial corridor. Let's support the businesses that are already there and encourage other businesses to locate there so we can have the goods and services we need close to home (see page 3 for more information).

Reinventing the Crescent presented their vision of our riverfront at our March General meeting on 3/24. Thank you to all our Bywater friends and neighbors that joined us for the presentation. This proposed vision presented is a rough draft of what could be and by no means the final plans for the riverfront. I encourage everyone to become better educated on the plan so that we will get the riverfront we need not the riverfront we are told we want. (More on page 8)

Spring has sprung and we have a lot of fun to look forward to. We have a great opportunity to rebuild St. Claude Avenue, the riverfront and our neighborhood. I hope you will join me in advancing our neighborhood so we can make the Marigny a better place to live, work and play.



**MEET THE NEIGHBORS UPDATE**

Thank you to DBA for hosting our April Meet the Neighbors night. It was a great time.

Come meet your neighbors and socialize with your fellow Marigny residents at our Meet the Neighbors night. We are on our second year of monthly Meet the Neighbors night social and it keeps getting better. Our next installment will be on May 13th at Hooka Bar, 1407 Decatur, from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Stop by and enjoy your neighborhood and neighbors!



***36th Annual Home & Garden Tour,  
Art Market, and Music***

**SUNDAY, MAY 18**

Come view one of the oldest buildings in the Creole Faubourgs! This year's Home Tour highlights some of the oldest buildings in the historic Faubourg Marigny. The tour will feature seven private residences that are also featured in, *New Orleans Architecture: The Creole Faubourgs*.

We are proud to have this opportunity to showcase these rich examples of historic architecture whose owners have graciously opened for this tour. Not only is the architecture a must-see, the historic value associated with each of these properties speaks volumes. The information is fascinating.

This year's Home Tour once again will include an Art Mart with local artists exhibiting and selling their work. The Art Mart will begin at 10 a.m. and the tours at Noon. In addition we will have a live music concert featuring two bands adding to the festivities. And a new Kids Activity area that will feature lots of fun activities for kids to participate during the Home Tour.

If you, or someone you know would like to volunteer during the Home Tour please contact Reg Medellin (504) 940-4042 or our volunteer coordinator Deborah Oppenheim (504) 319-4262.

Our next planning meeting will be Wednesday, April 16, 7 PM, at 2119 Decatur Street.

Volunteers who serve a two hour shift will get a free ticket to the tour.



**RON PETTY APPOINTED TO BOARD**

Ron Petty was appointed to the Board at our April Board meeting to fill a vacancy left by Stephanie Pedro back in November. Ron comes to the Board with many years of experience including volunteering PFLAG for many years as well as being a past Board member of the FMIA. We are lucky to have Ron on the Board.

# ST. CLAUDE AVENUE MAIN STREET



By Robyn Blanpied, Manager

We did it! The parade rolled as scheduled, unfortunately without the Fredrick Douglass Band (the director fell ill.) The marchers stopped outside St. Marguerite's to serenade the residents, and ended in triumph at Marigny Street.

Pre-parade activities included a party at Hi-Ho Lounge on Friday night, complete with raffles and Karaoke. Good



Children Carnival Club is exploring the idea of becoming the Good Children Social Aid and Pleasure Club. Contact Kathy Connelly for more information. (504) 949-1773.

Plans are being floated to refocus the St. Claude Ave. area as a center for restaurant wholesale/retail, anchored by St. Roch Market and the New Orleans Healing Center Food Co-op. The long term plan is to attract the large food suppliers to the area and have retail outlets for local purchase of foods. We hope that clustering access to food supplies will support small scale growers and suppliers, open up local access to a wide variety of food supplies and promote the area as a destination for all who love to cook. In short, instead of a supermarket, why not a Super Street Market? To read the draft of the plan check out [www.stclaudemainstreet.org](http://www.stclaudemainstreet.org) . Comments are welcome!

We are currently working to identify the owners of all properties on St. Claude Ave between Elysian Fields and Press Street, and contact them to offer support in bringing their properties back. If you know anyone who owns property, please let them know we want to reach them.

Future projects:

We are staging a "Paint it Up St. Claude" event to help businesses spruce up the facades on St. Claude Avenue the week of June 12 - 20. This will be a volunteer effort to help make our shopping corridor a more attractive place.

Hispanic Heritage Month begins on September 15 because

this day marks the anniversary of independence for five Hispanic countries—Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua. In addition, Mexico achieved independence on September 16 and Chile on September 18. To offer locals a true taste of Latin and South American cuisine, we want to hold the first Taco Truck Festival. We are hoping to invite our newest foodie friends to gather together for a day of music and exploring new tastes and treats. Interested in making it happen? Please contact Robyn at (504) 301 9023.

## See you on St. Claude!



### NO MORE BLIGHT — Join Us in Our Fight

Join us in sending a message to absentee land owners that we will no longer accept blighted property in our neighborhood. This will be the first of many hearings to come on this issue and we need to stand unified.



The hearing is set for April 23rd and will be on the blighted property located at 2520 Dauphine (corner of Dauphine and Franklin). The owner is James Thorick. The hearing starts at 10:00 a.m. and is held in the Environmental Health Office located on the 8th floor of City Hall. It is important that near neighbors and residents show up to the meeting to let the Adjudication Committee know how this property has affected their quality of life. Please make every effort to attend. If you cannot attend you may write a letter to:

Wesely Taylor  
Chief of Environmental Health  
1300 Perdido Street, Suite 8E18  
New Orleans, LA 70112

We are keeping a running list of properties so if you know of a property that has visible damage and/or is vacant; please let us know so we may add them to the list. You can e-mail us at [info@faubourgmarigny.org](mailto:info@faubourgmarigny.org) with the address of the property, or call us at 888-321-0812 with the same information.

We all want to live in a safe and healthy neighborhood. We are asking these neighbors to help us in rebuilding our neighborhood and City by taking care of their property.



## NATURAL FOODS STORE IN THE MARIGNY

The New Orleans Food Co-op (NOFC) is in the process of making plans for a cooperative natural foods store. They are looking for members and volunteers. If you want to join, download a membership application from their website at [www.nolafoodcoop.org](http://www.nolafoodcoop.org), look for a food co-op brochure distributed in many places throughout the City, or call John Calhoun at 914-6936.

Until that becomes a reality, the NOFC currently operates a monthly buying club where members can place on-line orders that are delivered by a natural foods wholesaler from Arkansas.

EAT HEALTHY, JOIN TODAY!



### The Do You Know What It Means

By Amanda McFillen, Historic New Orleans Collection

"The Do You Know What It Means Project" is an internet-based photo history project founded by the School of Visual Arts in New York. Their mission was to collect photos of life in New Orleans before Katrina, and share them on their website [www.doyouknowwhatitmeans.org](http://www.doyouknowwhatitmeans.org). Now, the project has come home to New Orleans, and is being continued by the Historic New Orleans Collection. Their mission is to document the city's vibrant history throughout its various neighborhoods. The Historic New Orleans Collection is looking for people willing to share their photographs with the project. Please visit our website [www.doyouknowwhatitmeans.org](http://www.doyouknowwhatitmeans.org) and email Amanda McFillen, the project coordinator, at [amanda.mcfillen@gmail.com](mailto:amanda.mcfillen@gmail.com), if you are interested in participating."



### FMIA Merchandise is RE-DESIGNED and AVAILABLE NOW!

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## Save Our Trees!

Hurray! The Oak trees in Washington Square Park have already been sprayed in anticipation of the buck moth caterpillars. Thank you to those that donated to help pay for the spraying. We are still \$800 short! Can you help us out?

You might be wondering why we had them sprayed in the first place if we did not have all the money. The reason is that we decided to go Green this year and use the organic pesticide instead of the more toxic version. The caveat to the organic version is that it only works on the caterpillars when they are in their larval stage which is much sooner than we can see them with our naked eyes. Therefore, the organic pesticide must be sprayed much sooner than the more toxic version.



The increased lead time, coupled with the fact that the buck moths came early this year, meant we had to spray them even sooner. As many of you know firsthand, the park would be unusable without spraying as the caterpillars fall from the trees stinging those who are unfortunate enough to be in their path.

Please send a check made payable to FMIA with "Save Our Trees" in the memo. Send to:

FMIA, Save Our Trees  
P.O. Box 770080  
New Orleans, LA 70177

The cost is \$55 per tree and \$30 for half a tree. All donations are appreciated and 100% tax deductible.

### END OF FREE NEWSLETTER..

March was the last month of the free newsletter. If you have not renewed, you will not get a newsletter.

Thank you to everyone who renewed before the deadline. If you still need to renew, simply fill out the membership form on the back of the newsletter.

# Orchids & ONIONS

## Orchids



To Steve Himmelfarb for being a big supporter of FMIA



To Julian Muter Doerr for his very generous contribution to FMIA



To All Volunteers who help kept Washington Square Park clean.



To The children who are back playing in Washington Square Park.

## ONIONS

To Trash and more trash, please pick up and help with making the Marigny a delightful place to live, work, and play



## Zoning Change for Mardi Gras Zone Denied...

The City Planning Commission on March 25, 2008 unanimously voted to deny the application for a zoning change to allow for package liquor sales. The Commission stated that "allowing another 24-hour alcohol outlet in a neighborhood that has several outlets already was inappropriate, that the store should be on a major street and that Naghi appeared to be in continuing violation of city regulations."

We would like to thank everyone on both sides of the issue for letting us know their opinion. As we work together to rebuild our neighborhood and city we need to have open dialog to include all opinions about the problems and issues we will face so we may resolve them by making the most informed decision.

Now that the City has made its decision, we look forward to helping Mardi Gras Zone come under compliance with the City Ordinances so they may continue to provide the neighborhood with a safe place to make groceries.

## — PROJECTS —

**2410 N. Rampart** – Proposal to build a single story building on the lot.

**Holy Trinity** – The potential developer has withdrawn their proposal. We are sorry they will not be able to do the renovation but if they were interested, surely there will be another.

**807 Esplanade** – No update.

**623 Frenchmen** – The owners have received permission from the HDLC to remove the delapidated balcony and there are plans to replace it with a gallery. In addition to the gallery, the property will be repaired to bring it out of its blight status.



## LOOKING FOR GRANTS

A big thank you to Debbie McClain who has offered to help educate us on the grant writing process. We already have some leads! We are looking for help in writing the grants. If you have some experience or are interested in learning the process please let us know.



- In the announcement about the Councilman walking the beat, the title should have read "James Carter" instead of Troy. Sorry, James!



- In last month's Orchids and Onions, Glenn's name was misspelled. His last name is spelled Reames. Thank you again, Glenn, for helping us out.

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GUARDIANS INSTITUTE, FIRST BOOK GREATER - NEW ORLEANS, NEW ORLEANS MUSICIANS' CLINIC, INTERFAITH WORKS, AND MARDI GRAS INDIAN HALL OF FAME TO PRESENT BOOKS TO STUDENTS

NEW ORLEANS, La.- Guardians Institute has worked cooperatively with several community based groups to organize book distributions to elementary level students in the New Orleans area. The program has quickly become one of New Orleans' most innovative literacy initiatives. Books are presented ceremoniously, and teachers use the books in class to support the Louisiana Comprehensive Curriculum. Since May, 2006 over 2,500 new books have been distributed. First Book - New Orleans has joined this initiative and will donate 10,000 books for a special spring distribution. The New Orleans Musicians' Clinic, a partner, provides funding for performances by local musicians and Mardi Gras Indians. In celebration of the First Annual Right To Read Month, individuals have joined together to serve as readers and distribute books to area school children in special Read-Alongs. After books are presented to students, readers read the book or an excerpt from the book while students follow along in their new books.

"Mardi Gras Indians have historically participated in events that support and celebrate the citizens of New Orleans. We are thrilled to participate in the Right to Read program, as a Big Chief, I always encourage children to dedicate themselves to their education." said Clarence "Chief Delco" Dalcour, Big Chief of the Creole Osceola Mardi Gras Indian group. Chief Delco and Herreast J. Harrison, created a special song, "Everybody's Got to Read, Read, Read," that is performed at book presentation ceremonies.

Media are invited to the presentations.

This program was inspired by the late Big Chief Donald Harrison, Sr. He read over forty books a year and encouraged children to read by giving books as gift. The Right 2 Read movement, a successful Mardi Gras Indian reading initiative, is looking for community members to read to students in local schools through April 30, 2008.

For more information about the program, or to see a schedule of dates when Mardi Gras Indians and other community leaders will be reading to students, see the press release below. Call Cherice Harrison-Nelson at 214-6630, or e-mail: QueenReesie@aol.com

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REINVENTING THE CRESCENT PLAN



If someone came up to you and offered to build a wonderful park along a unused part of your neighborhood what would you say? The Faubourg Marigny and other neighborhoods adjacent to the Mississippi River are being offered just that. The Reinventing the Crescent Plan proposes to convert the land of on the riverside of the floodwall into a linear park, offering our community green space and room to relax, play and exercise.

The Reinventing the Crescent Plan was developed in the context of The Riverfront Vision 2005 Plan (RFV 2005 Plan) giving focus to the general recommendation of a plan specifically for the river side of the flood wall between Jackson and Poland Avenue. The plan recognizes and corrects many of the shortcomings of the Riverfront Vision 2005 Plan (RFV 2005) by carefully studying the actual conditions such as amount of land available for re-development, the activity of the Port of New Orleans and the Public Belt Railway, the natural condition of the river's edge and safety issues relative to the flow of the River. The plan also makes bold proposals for the creation of public open space in the form of a linear park, and identifies areas for intensive development with public and private investment.

The Plan as proposed by the New Orleans Building Corporation is a visionary statement for the re-use of abandoned or underused City owned property that has until recently has been managed by the Port of New Orleans. The plan, although not in its original scope, also provides possible developments on the other side of the flood wall in the neighborhoods. These developments neither take into account the current zoning of the neighborhoods nor do they take into account the issues of

parking, traffic etc the proposed developments will create nor do they represent, in all cases, the actual desires of the property owners for whom they have proposed these developments.

The Reinventing the Crescent Plan avoids most of the controversy of the RFV 2005 Plan by focusing on the benefits of a fabulous public park with lots piers, walkways, landscaping and places for public activities that stretches for nearly 5 miles along the Riverfront although they were not shy to propose development on the other side of the floodwall. When viewed with the proposed land use plan in the RFV 2005 Plan, the Reinventing the Crescent Plan is clearly designed to encourage further development by private investors. The plan identifies very limited opportunities to invest private money on the riverside of the floodwall. It is the RFV 2005 Plan that gives the larger picture of what our riverfront may look like in the near future and where private developers will benefit from the public investment for improvements on the riverside of the floodwall.

The light industrial area of the Faubourg Marigny neighborhood has been targeted as a desirable location for re-development in the RFV 2005 plan. This coupled with the Reinventing the Crescent Plan calling for some type of intensive redevelopment of the Mandeville Street Wharf causes great concern.

As the Plan moves from concept to implementation **we must remain aware that the questions of building height, density, traffic flow, parking, infrastructure development, public safety, maintenance etc are not addressed in the plan.**

Everyone agrees that the riverfront should be developed. The fundamental question to ask about the development and this plan is: Given the great needs that we see all around us in our great City, is this the place where a large investment of public money will give the greatest benefit to the entire City? Would spending the same amount or less on revitalizing St. Claude Avenue or N Claiborne Avenue or providing money to fix up blighted houses bring a greater return on the investment and to our neighborhood and the entire City? Would investing in infrastructure that brings well paying rather than hospitality jobs be money better spent?



**THE JUNQUE ANTIQUE SHOP**

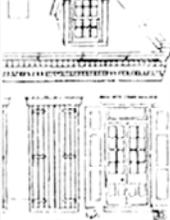
421 Frenchmen Street

**(504) 453-2199 & (713) 504-0599**

Who needs more junk? Well, if it's the kind that Bruce Blew, owner of The Junque Shop, has to offer, everyone. Bruce and Bette Neff sell antique furniture, china and accessories, 99% of which are from European sources. They pride themselves on the fact that they sell some of the most unique antique pieces in New Orleans and that "every day people buy them to use." Their goal is to maintain a good quality of items at great prices. They get a new truckload in every week.

Bruce has been in New Orleans since 1989 coming all the way from Philadelphia. A chemical engineer by trade, he took a job at the Mobil refinery which brought him to the Big Easy. He enjoys repairing furniture and renovating houses as a hobby although the slow real estate market led him to leave home repair and devote his future on antiques.

We welcome Bruce, Bette, and The Junque Shop Antiques into the neighborhood and wish them much success. Stop by and get a new piece of Junque!



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 Broker Associate and Property Management

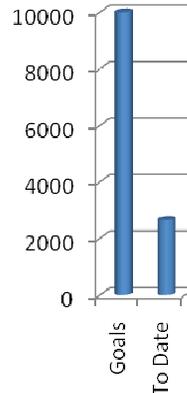
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 sam@fqrr.com



**\$10,000 MATCHING DONATION FOR PROJECTS IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD**

We are getting closer to our goal of raising \$10,000. To date we have raised \$5300!

We would like to thank the following for donating to the campaign so far:



**Friends of Bernard**

Gene Cizek & Lloyd Sensat  
 Chris Costello & John Deveney

**Friends of Frenchmen**

Deborah Oppenheim & Rick Fifield  
 Mathew Schwarzman and Miriam Zarsky  
 Ron Petty & Reg Medellin  
 Brian Frye  
 Leigh & Jim Crawford  
 Stephen Fowlkes

**Friends of the Marigny**

Paulo and Connie Diniz

And thank you to Julian Doerr Mutter for the dollar-for-dollar matching donation that will help us double our efforts to raise a total of \$20,000.

Any and all donations are appreciated and accepted but to make it easier and to recognize different levels of donations we have come up with the following levels:

- \$1000+ Friends of Bernard
- \$500 - \$999 Friends of Mandeville
- \$250 - \$499 Friends of Elysian Fields
- \$100 - \$249 Friends of Frenchmen
- \$50 - \$99 Friends of the Marigny

We are looking for ways to maximize this opportunity. One way is to see if your company has a matching fund policy for donations their employees make. Would you mind asking? All donations are 100% tax deductible.

One of our first projects will be the renovation of Washington Square Park. Help us make it a reality. Donations should be made payable to FMIA and sent to PO BOX 700880, New Orleans LA 70177.

# UPPER NINTH WARD FARMERS MARKET

Saturdays 1-4 pm

HOLY ANGEL'S PARKING LOT 3500 ST. CLAUDE AVENUE

Easter Saturday, March 22, was a big success. In the morning we had the Easter egg hunt, attended by kids from the local school and in the afternoon the bicycle beauty pageant. We were happy to give out toys such as hula hoops, bike bells and helmets, street chalk, and bubble machines. I drove around like mad in the days prior to the events of that Saturday picking up and drooping off eggs, toys, fruit, and anything else we needed. Big thanks go out to everyone whose involvement was instrumental in bringing Easter events to local Drew Elementary kids: Roy Zuppardo of Zuppardo's Supermarket for providing 15 dozen eggs, Reggie Lawson for boiling and dyeing the eggs, Dr. Denese Shervington for her generous donation to allow purchase of the toys, Kina Joshua for organizational help, and of course, the volunteers who helped judge the bike contest and helped hide Easter eggs. From all of us at the market thanks go out to the patrons, vendors, and volunteers for making Easter Saturday a hit!



## VENDOR HIGHLIGHTS

**Dona Blanca:** Kathia brings chorizo, and fresh cheese. Stock up on her beef and vegetarian tamales.

**Champagne Dreams:** Gourmet salad dressings Try her barbecue sauce, pestos, and cashew nut butter.

**Crescent Creams:** Wayne Brown brings many creamy praline varieties including pina colada, and nipples of Venus.

**Gill Farm:** Linda Higginbotham returns to market with tomatoes, sweet potatoes, strawberries, onions, broccoli, eggs, squash, greens, eggplants, peanuts and beans from Handen, Louisiana

**House of Bread:** Assortment of baked breads prepared with freshly milled flour.

**Kathy's Flowers:** Potted herbs, tomatoes, peppers, citrus trees, bougainvillea, and assorted bedding plants.

**Latino Farmers Coop:** Luiz Alvarado brings produce from the Zeringue Farm in Hahnville. Greens, cauliflower, parsley and Vidalia onions.

**Porteras Panetteria:** Southern Italian gourmet products from old family recipes.



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Board Meeting at St. Paul Lutheran Church

Approvals by consensus through email and any corrections please let us know

1. None

**OLD BUSINESS** (Active)

A. **Approval of minutes** from 2/13 Board Meeting & 2/18 General Meeting

B. **Projects** –

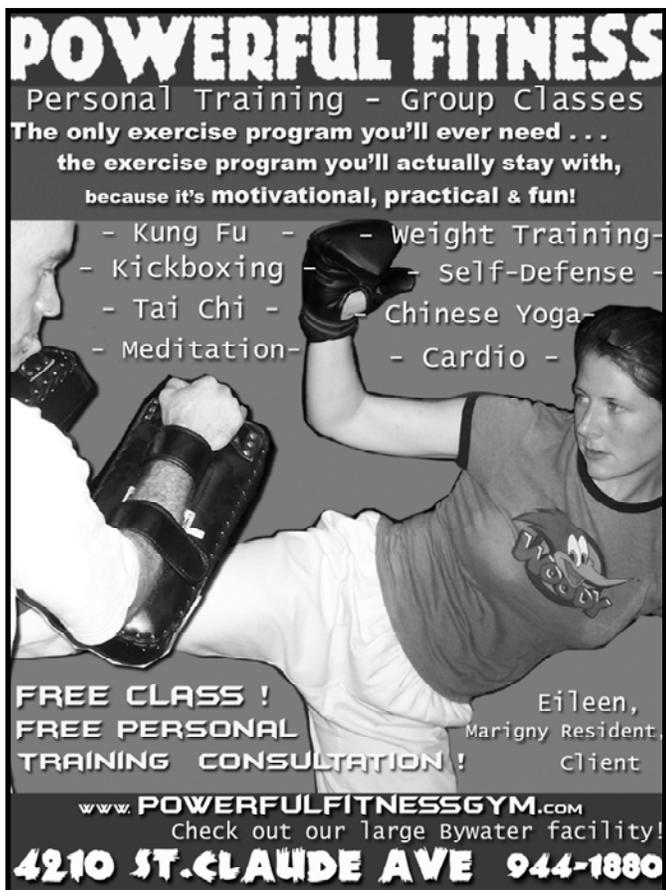
a. **Mardi Gras Zone Rezoning** –HMR-2 to HMC-1 1) zoning issues; 2) If they are allowed by zoning a certain license and they became something else without the necessary process and licenses; 3) RDO - the possibility of placing MGZ under the RDO which will list specifically their parameters; 4) parking issues; 5) 18 wheelers and other delivery trucks; 6) trash issue; 7) there are alternatives such as Main Street ( St. Claude Ave.) and opportunities that exist there; 8) neighbors oppositions; 9) spot zoning  
**MOTION: OPPOSE** the commercial zoning change and package liquor license for the above reasons and recommend that CPC considers studying the options of applying the RDO to MGZ and/or relocation to Main St.  
**Second: Gene VOTE: Consensus**

b. **Holy Trinity** – Conditional Use for Recording Studio Update

**DISCUSSION:** Doug Welch - Kristin Matalli Cynthia Strawn and Norine Schmidt. Resurrection Studio – The building is really in bad condition and will cost 4-6 million dollars to do the project. The structural engineer said it could be rebuilt cheaper if they tear it down. This is not their intent. The current zoning ( 1998) is HMR 3 They went to CPC. CPC brainstormed various options such as working with the light industrial zone, possible a spot zone to a museum, and revert non-conforming conditional use. FMIA suggested The Residential Diversity Overlay (RDO) and have a text amendment for the historical use of the building.

**QUESTIONS/ANSWERS**

1. Site plan: The property has lots of boundaries and the existing garden. They will split the garden area and preserve the



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**MEETINGS**

FMIA General and Board Meetings are open to the public. Committees and committee meetings are also open to anyone who is interested or would like to help.

**BOARD MEETINGS** are the 1st Wednesday of each month at 6:30 PM. Location TBA (see www.faubourgmarigny.org)

**GENERAL MEETINGS** are the 3rd Monday of each month and begin with a potluck at 6:30 PM at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 2624 Burgundy Street. The meeting starts at 7:15 PM. (There are NO general meetings in July and December.)

**ADS AND ARTICLES**

Ads and articles for the monthly newsletters are due by the Friday following the Board Meeting.

**TO ADVERTISE IN THIS NEWSLETTER..**

Member rates listed below are “per month” charges and dependent on the number of times you place an advertisement. Non-members pay an extra \$3 per month.

Size	3 - 10 Times/yr.	1 - 2 Times/yr.
Full Page	\$90	\$110
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Quarter Page	\$30	\$40
Back Quarter Page	\$45	\$55
Business Card	\$18	\$25

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open space. They want to work with Lazarus House re parking and the garden.

2. The Clerestory would be rebuilt for all the recording stuff.
  3. The first and second floor will be the recording studio.
  4. They are 6 bays and the Choir area will be rebuilt and occupy a bay.
  5. Second floor will be the control room which will oversee the live room.
  6. Third floor will be offices.
  7. Fire safety – will do what is necessary.
  8. They have not formally approached Lazarus House and NOCCA.
  9. Gene: This does fit into the concept of the Overlay and why can't it go back to music?
  10. They are looking at the studio as a non-profit but with the development of the Foundation. They would work with other non-profits. There is another team who would address these issues as the project moves forward.
  11. Geotechnical work – This is running into big numbers. Lenny wants a great recording studio and now it is a bigger project. There are limitations such as the existing Foundation has to be reorganized. Then they would have to raise money and get help from other groups.
  12. Lenny Kravitz is bringing to the project an analog mixing board from the Abbey Road Studio and would like to incorporate the mixing board into the studio as vintage equipment.
  13. They also mentioned that the perimeter of the building is settling.
  14. Gene: Make sure to use the right type of materials, not turn it into a new building, and live with the oldest part of the building. Tax credit is another valuable resource.
  15. Stephen: Encourages the garden idea.
- c. Releaf Marigny – No Status
- C. **Meet the Neighbors** – Next one March 11 at John Paul's 6:30 WE Need A NEW CHAIRPERSON and please contact Chris Costello.
- D. **Playground Equipment** – It is done! It is beautiful.
- E. **Visibility of Marigny:** Banners – Status? Defer
- F. **Historic Markers** – Status? Defer
- G. **Blighted/Vacant Property** – Status? Defer
- H. **Issues:**
- a. 525 Frenchmen – Status Yuki FMIA sent a

letter to the State opposing Class B Liquor license

- b. 2106 Chartres - Jericho's Hookah and Caf<sup>2</sup> - Chris went to BR and opposing them getting the liquor license for the reason as a bar. The state granted them their restaurant liquor license but not a bar.
  - c. 2705-7 Decatur – No Status
- I. **Insurance Policy** – Status - none
- J. **Office Space** – Status- Talk to Marshall
- K. **Yearly Agenda** – Status? None
- L. **Donation from Julian Doerr Mutter** – We received a pledge from Julian Doerr Mutter.
- M. **RiverfrontAlliance** MOTION for Chris to sign Freedom of Information as part of the Riverfront Alliance Second: Stephen VOTE: Consensus
- N. **AIDS Memorial for WSP** – Mark Thomas mthomas1@tulane.edu 504-850-602-7411 ( cell) The circle in Washington Square Park that faces the Dauphine Street gate which is across the street from the Claiborne Mansion is the area where the memorial would be place. The circle is 24ft and the sculpture (21ft) fits in the circle. There is a sense of unity by using the flora and fauna of the park. There are granite pavements which will be set in sand in a radial pattern. Mark felt that all the benches need to be replaced if they raise enough money. Some of the benches are the residential benches and some are concrete. Mark mentioned getting enough money for professional maintenance. This means re-landscaping, re-use ,and updated the existing landscape. Mark also mentioned that there will be perpetual maintenance. NO AIDS Task Force is interested in the Memorial now since there is the possibility of Washington Square Park.
- Stephen: Approval is needed for the redesign of the benches.
- Chris: This design does not encroach in the park. I love the benches that are there now. Looking at the project on a larger scale; we would need to carry out the planting. Money is needed for perpetual care and if not; it becomes an eye sore. We would need a written contract if another group is handling the perpetual care and acting as the fiscal agent.
- Deborah: A written plan should be presented to the general membership.
- O. **Grant Writer** - Debbie McClain - From Pittsburg as a consultant for Road Home, FEMA, and she knows her stuff. She is looking at different grant sources. She is doing research and development looking for grants. Susan Banks is another possibility for writing the grants.



**OLD BUSINESS** (*In-active*)

- A. **Bellsouth** and the Digital Loop Carriers, 2601 Burgundy - No new information
- B. **Issues:**
  - a. 2100 Burgundy (Fred Morgan)
- C. **Projects:**
  - a. 801 Frenchmen No Status
  - a. 839 Elysian Fields – Status? Project on Hold per owner
  - b. Mandeville Fire Station – No Status
  - c. 1017 Touro (Friendly Touch Bar) No Status

G. **Issues:** None

H. **Projects:**

I. **Go through committee reports:**

Treasurer – Excellent report by Brian Frye - Smart Business Checking Account with Whitney and is looking at using NOVA portable debit or credit and looking at the web component

Newsletter –

*Orchids:* Steve Himmelfarb for being a big supporter of FMIA

Julian Muter Doerr for his generous contribution to FMIA.

All Volunteers who help kept

Washington Square Park clean.

The children who are back playing in Washington Square Park

*Onions:* Trash and more trash, please pick up and help with making the Marigny a delightful place to live, work, and play.

J. **Home Tour** - Our 36th Annual Home and Garden Tour is May 18. We are looking for a chairperson for our new Kids' Area. We always welcome all Volunteers .

**NEW BUSINESS**

- A. **Next Board Meeting** Leigh April 2nd
- B. **T-shirts Idea** Steve Himmelfarb from the New Orleans Cake Caf<sup>2</sup> and Bakery . They are our top seller of mugs. He would like to sell T-Shirts and on the back of the shirt put the business logo. We need a mock –up. Discussion Idea: A sketch of the building with their logo. MOTION: CHRIS would pursue the idea with the caveat of a sketch of their building with their logo and phone number and/or logo small on the front and our logo on the back. SECOND: Brian VOTE: Consensus
- C. **Marigny Advertising** – Radio/Brochure Steve Himmelfarb has talked to businesses in the Marigny. He thought of radio spots and the businesses would pay. The other idea is a brochure of all the businesses in the Marigny, Main St.,and Bywater businesses (payment required). Steve Himmelfarb will get more information.
- D. **Tree Spraying** for Washington Square Park is about \$1500 for the trees in the park. If we want to use the organic pesticide we need to spray now. MOTION: Pay the cost with the assumption that we will raise money to cover the cost GENE second VOTE: Consensus
- E. **Board Meeting Access** - A policy for presenters and visors was discussed. Stephen will write up a draft policy. Until then, sign-in sheets will be required. MOTION: Sign in sheets for Board Meetings and General Meetings Second: Reg Discussion: Sign in for meetings for now and Stephen will write up a draft policy to present to Board. Approval by consensus.
- F. **5th District Police Staffing** - Kerrie Ramsel - LA National Guard is leaving. They have many patrols especially for the 5th District. We need to be pro active and have that gap filled. As an organization the City needs to provide the staffing. Letters will be written to the powers to be asking what their plans is once the National Guard is gone.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00pm

**General Meeting March 19, 2008  
7:15 pm**

Chris Costello, FMIA President welcomed everyone to our joint meeting with Bywater Neighborhood Association. Julie Jones, President of BNA thanked all Bywater and Marigny participants.

Chris introduced the evening's guest speaker, Sean Cummings, Director of New Orleans Building Corporation, Reinventing the Crescent, The New Orleans Riverfront and Allen Esckew, Architect. Sean introduced Jennifer Zurik as the project manager. Sean Cummings presented design goals, development plan, and implementation of the proposal. Allen Esckew walked us through the six mile of the proposal for the design of the riverfront. Allen Esckew said that the footprint is from the flood wall to the waters edge, Jackson Ave to Poland Ave. The presentation also mentioned several development opportunities on the land side of the flood wall such as the Cruise Ship Terminal at Poland Wharf, the Tulane's Riversphere, the Market Street- power station redevelopment, and many other public and private investment opportunities. There were several questions from the audiences including these topics:



zoning change, perpetual care of the green space, maintenance and security, geographic restraints, traffic circulation, parking, height limitations for buildings, existing infrastructure, amble pedestrian's access, the railroad line deters emergency access, expansion of the street car on the river and St. Claude Ave., electronic flashing billboards, environmental sustainable, pollution, noise, and the clarification of City Council's ratification of Riverfront Vision 2005 to Reinventing the Crescent. Sean concluded the presentation by mentioning his website [www.neworiverfront.com](http://www.neworiverfront.com) for more information.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

1. **HOME TOUR:** The 36th Annual Home and Garden Tour is May 18th in Washington Square Park. A big thank you goes to Reg Medellin, Chairperson for his dedication and vision for making this annual fundraiser an enjoyable successful event. FMIA welcomes the addition to our Art Market and Music Venue, the new Kid's Tent. Volunteers are always needed and appreciated.
2. **John Lockett:** There has been a rash of **graffiti** in the Marigny. John reported that if you are interested, call Fred (aka gray ghost ) @ 486-9694. There is a City Ordinance re graffiti and the fine is a \$500 per day.
3. **Recycle:** Please take time to fill out the City Survey re recycling. You can fill out the survey by calling 311 or visiting <http://www.cityofno.com/Portals/Sanitation/portal.aspx>. Help us make the Marigny a recycling neighborhood.
4. **Town Hall Meeting:** March 26, 2008 Councilperson James Carter is having a Town Hall meeting at Cabrini High School on Esplanade at 6:00pm.
5. **Meet the Neighbors :** April 8th at DBA, 6:30pm.
6. **Blight:** Howard has complaint forms regarding blight to be filled out. Questions? contact FMIA.
7. **Andy Gallagher:** For Information on the **Riverfront Alliance**, [www.riverfrontalliance.org](http://www.riverfrontalliance.org) 525-0932

Meeting ended: 9:30pm

**BOARD MEMBERS**

- Chris Costello, President  
ccostello@deveney.com
- Reg Medellin, Vice President  
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- Brian Frye, Treasurer  
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- Leigh Crawford, Corresponding Secretary  
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- Deborah Oppenheim, Recording Secretary  
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- Bylaws – Gary deLeaumont  
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- Community Outreach – Marshall Greis
- Crime - Kerrie Ramsdell
- Education/Frenchman – Deborah Oppenheim
- Home Tour –  
Reg Medellin & Deborah Oppenheim
- Hospitality – Gary deLeaumont
- Membership – Gary deLeaumont
- Neighborhood Development – Brian Frye
- HDLC – Rick Fifield  
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fmianews@aol.com
- Special Projects – Gary deLeaumont
- Washington Square Park – Chris Costello
- Web Site – Chris Costello
- Zoning - Robyn Blanpied



**General Meeting, Monday, 4/21**

**May General Meeting, Monday, 5/26**

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3. Contact Information:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

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4. Willing to volunteer?   \_\_\_ Yes   \_\_\_ No

Make checks payable to *F.M.I.A.* and send to:  
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